

Editorial team :  
Kilian S. Anna M.  
Stefan S.

# The Student Times

Frankfurt

VOL.I . . No.1

FEBRUARY 1, 2015

SPECIAL EDITION

## Bouldering a fun new activity for everyone



Since a year ago, I think everyone has been talking about the new activity called 'Bouldering'. When I first heard of it I didn't even know what kind of sport this was. Today I know it's just climbing without any safety belt. Of course you don't climb that high and there are mats on the ground so you can't be injured. But what is so exciting about climbing and why has it become so popular in the last

years? One reason could be the simplicity to learn and to practice this kind of sport.

You need no expensive equipment and you can start immediately.

When you first arrive at a Boulder-hall it looks pretty funny. All you see is colored grips in all kinds, forms and

sizes on every wall in the hall. At the beginning it looks kind of arbitrary, but there is an order in this chaos. First of all you need to sign in and borrow some Boulder shoes. That's all. Now you are ready to start! The colors of the grips represent the different levels of difficulty: from yellow-black spotted (easy) over green grips (average) to really difficult and challenging routes, which are col-

ored in black. So you can easily begin by choosing a route with an easy color and just try to climb it. A route is here a fixed path on the wall with a tagged start and goal. One route is always colored in one color, so you can immediately see which grips are from your route. This system is very motivating because every time you go bouldering, you have little moments of success. Climbing a more difficult route for the first time or succeeding at a more difficult colored route from the days before is very motivating. Even kids can start with this sport. Actually kids are really good at it. They are very light and kind of strong in relation to their bodyweight. And for the really small ones it is also a very good training for there motor development. All in all, bouldering is a fun an straightforward activity which can be done by everyone. Just try it!

## THE MOBILE

FUNCTIONAL FRIEND OR TINY TYRANT?

As it is for the most of my generation the mobile is a fixed part of my daily life. It starts early in the morning when the alarm clock goes off. But it is not a normal alarm clock, it is my mobile which wakes me off because people of my generation don't have alarm clocks any more. For the rest of the day my mobile is always by my side, in my left pocket as usual. And whenever something happens it vibrates. At the moment of the

vibration I dont know what it is. Maybe it is an important e-mail from my prof? Or is it just someone inviting me to some stupid Facebook game? Maybe someone has written something in a WhatsApp group which I am a part of? I don't know. So I have to look. And this happens all day long.



On the one hand, this is not necessarily bad. I mean I am connected with all my friends all the time. I dont need my desktop computer to check my Emails any more. How could this be bad? On the other hand, this process of looking repeatedly at my mobile during the day means that i sometimes feel the vibration in my pocket when there is actually no vibration. That's somehow confusing and scary at once. So we have to look at this gift of connectivity with a skeptical eye.

We have to ask ourselves: Do I really need to be available all the time? How is this connection influencing my relationship to my friends? Its been awhile since I wrote the following sentence:

The more we connect,  
the more we disconnect.

Just think about it. Is social

media making us less social at the end of the day? For myself, I found out that I don't need the connection to the world the whole day. So I just turn my phone onto flight-modus sometimes. I think it's an important experience to make it through one or two days without a mobile by your side. Just to see how big the influence of this tiny tyrant really is. Trust me. It is not that easy.

## INTRODUCTION OF THE MINIMUM WAGE

On January 1 2015, the minimum wage was introduced in Germany. It is a common measure to avoid low wages. Its introduction was discussed with much controversy. On the one hand, there were people who were afraid of charging the companies too much.



They argued that the introduction of the minimum wage will lead to many dismissals and hence, that there will be more unemployed people who have to be on benefits. On the other hand, other people argued that

having a full time job must generate enough income to be independent of social welfare. They also argued that giving these people social welfare because of their low income means supporting enterprises which make money by exploiting people.

Now the minimum wage has been introduced.

We will see how it works out and how many job losses will actually happen. Personally, I am happy about the introduction of the minimum wage because I think that every job has to receive fair pay and guarantee that the employees can live from it. I think it is not just a question of cost effectiveness but also a question of morality.

## PLACES TO VISIT IN FRANKFURT

Frankfurt am Main, a multicultural, international and place-to-be city in Germany. This city is a nice hot spot for young students or hard working business people and it is still interesting in cultural aspects. For example, around the Main river there are tons of museums for art, history, movies, etc. Next to the museums there is the Altstadt with the famous Römer. It is one of the symbols of Frankfurt besides the Frankfurt skyline with the pencil shaped building called the Messeturm. For hard working

business men the annual international automobile fair is the number one hot spot for the automobile industry where new cars of all brands are presented to the public. The European Central Bank at Willy-Brandt-Platz in the financial district is an impressive symbol of capitalism because the big deals about Europe are decided here in Frankfurt. For younger students there is the big shopping area Zeilgalerie in which many fashion brands, restaurants, bars and clubs are located.

On weekends it will be very crowded and crazy and loud.

The Zeilgalerie contains every aspect young students search for to get ready for the nightlife in one of the best clubs in Europe: the Gibson and Apartment.

## PLACES-TO-BE IN FRANKFURT

If you visit Frankfurt the first time you shouldn't miss getting an overview of the city from above. Therefore, the Maintower opens its rooftop for visitors. The elevator brings you up to 200 meters for 4.50. Afterwards, you can find a wide range of culinary specialities. A classic snack for busy shoppers is the Bratwurst, a hot sausage served in a bun. These are also available with halal meat. You get

it from the mobile imbiß-man wandering around at the Zeil.



If you are looking for a special place to have dinner, you should make a reservation Im Herzen Africas - an African restaurant where you will be served delicious traditional dishes in an authentic atmosphere. You can choose to sit at large wooden tables, in cosy corners or on cushions in the part of the restaurant where the floor is covered with sand. If you wish, you can enjoy the end of the evening with one of the gorgeous cocktails.

Would you prefer a typical Frankfurt setting to celebrate the night?

Then you should head for Alt-Sachsenhausen. The quarter is known for its pubs and bars. Try one of the regions specialities: Apfelwein, an alcoholic drink made from fermented apples. Traditionally you end the Apfelwein tasting with a liqueur called Mispelchen. Should there be some time left before going home, you can stop by Pizza Pedro, which is known for its legendary pizzas and opened till early in the morning. To give your trip a cultural touch you really should visit at least one museum. At the river bank you can visit

the Museum for Communication, the German Architecture Museum or the Stedel which provides you with an arts collection covering masterpieces from the Middle Ages till today. If you wish to focus on modern or contemporary art you are advised to visit the MMK (Museum of Modern Arts) or the Schirn. Both of them are located near the cathedral and not far away from the Römer - the historic town hall of Frankfurt. The square was almost completely destroyed after World War II but the reconstructed houses look like they did hundreds of years ago.

You get in touch with people of different backgrounds.

Often you receive insight-advices about restaurants, interesting places and activities in your destination. Your companion on the route can become your personal tourist guide. Of course there are several different characters - Not everybody is very talkative. But most people who offer rides are likely to communicate. The journey will pass quickly and in addition you will improve your oral language skills.



Therefore, I think, the inside of a car is a great setting: You can take your time to say whatever you are interested to. Moreover, you can learn from your counterpart by listening to him or her. If you want, you can ask him or her to correct you. You'll see, it is a lot of fun.

---

## BREAKING BAD

GOOSEBUMBS GUARANTEED

---

Vince Gilligan, the creator and executive producer of the American TV series Breaking Bad which began in 2008, has done a fantastic job. As one

of the world's most famous and distinguished dramas on free TV, Breaking Bad was nominated for many awards worldwide. Breaking Bad tells the story of Walter White (Bryan Cranston), who is a high school chemistry teacher and husband of Skyler (Anna Gunn), who is pregnant, and father of a teenager named Walter Junior (RJ Mitte). The family is living an ordinary but tough life.

Then Walter finds out that he has lung cancer which cannot be healed.

This is the reason why Walter, who does not tell his family the truth about his health, starts a criminal career by producing and selling methamphetamine because he wants his family to be financially secure after his death. Together with Jesse Pinkman (Aaron Paul), a former student of his, he starts the 'professional' production of blue crystal meth. Their meth became popular in the drug scene. Walter is my favorite character in this series because he is very complex and makes some very hard decisions to save money for his family in case he dies of cancer. I like this American TV-crime drama a lot because of the complex characters and the many stories which are told. It is a very thrilling and fascinating series which gives the viewer many things to think about.

---



---

## LEARNING BY TRAVELLING

---

If you are looking for an affordable way to travel within national borders and beyond, you should try car sharing. There are a lot of internet platforms offering to put you in contact with a driver with the same route you wish to travel. One of the most popular ones is blablacar.com. A platform where you also get additional information on the driver, such as age, gender or driving experience. Moreover, you find comments from other users who have already shared a ride with that person. Car sharing/ Ride sharing is not just a mean of transport, it is an experience.